

# Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group Bylaws

(With Amendments through April 2013)

## ARTICLE I. THE GROUP

Section 1. Name. The name of this group is the “Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group” (RWMG).

Section 2. Composition. The RWMG is composed of 18 entities:

- Big Sur Land Trust
- California State University Monterey Bay
- California Water Service Company
- Castroville Community Services District
- City of Salinas
- City of Soledad
- Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
- Garrapata Creek Watershed Council
- Marina Coast Water District
- Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office
- Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency
- Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
- Resource Conservation District of Monterey County
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation
- San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc.

Section 3. Notices. Any notices shall be sent to the Project Coordinator and to each of the RWMG entities by personal delivery, by email, by facsimile, or by first class mail, postage prepared in the United States Postal Service at the addresses set forth below. Notice shall be deemed effective upon delivery or transmission if delivered or sent by email or facsimile and on the third (3rd) day after mailing.

Susan Robinson, Project Coordinator for the Greater Monterey County IRWMP 1202 Hayes Run Road Marshall, NC 28753 Phone: (828) 649-9742 Email: srobinsons@frontier.com	Rachel Saunders Big Sur Land Trust 509 Hartnell Street, Monterey, CA 93940 Mail: P.O. Box 4071, Monterey, CA 93942 Phone: (831) 625-5523, ext. 109 Fax: (831) 625-0716 Email: rsaunders@bigsurlandtrust.org
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<p>Laura Lee Lienk, Co-Director, Watershed Institute  California State University Monterey Bay  Building 42, 100 Campus Center  Seaside, CA 93955  Phone: (831) 582-3689  Fax: (831) 582-3691  Email: llienk@csumb.edu</p>	<p>Mike Jones, Salinas District Manager  California Water Service Company  254 Commission Street  Salinas, CA 93901  Phone: (831) 757-3644  Email: mjones@calwater.com</p>
<p>J. Eric Tynan, General Manager  Castroville Community Services District  11499 Geil Street  P.O. Box 1065  Castroville, CA 95012  Phone: (831) 633-2560  Fax: (831) 633-3103  Email: cwderic@redshift.com</p>	<p>Michael Ricker, Environmental and Maintenance  Services  City of Salinas  426 Work Street  Salinas, CA 93901  Phone: (831) 758-7450  Fax: (831) 758-7940  Email: mikeri@ci.salinas.ca.us</p>
<p>Rich Guillen, Consultant for City of Soledad  City of Soledad  248 Main Street (P.O. Box 156)  Soledad, CA 93960  Phone: (831) 210-2284  Fax: (831) 646-2057  Email: richguillenassocs@sbcglobal.net</p>	
<p>Monique Fountain,  Interim Tidal Wetland Project Director  Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research  Reserve  1700 Elkhorn Road  Watsonville, CA 95076  Phone: (831) 728-2822  Fax: (831) 728-1056  Email: Monique@elkhornslough.org</p>	<p>Colin Bailey, Executive Director  Environmental Justice Coalition for Water  519 12th Street,  Sacramento, CA 95814  (916) 432-3529  Email: colin.ejcw@gmail.com</p>
<p>Ken Ekelund, President  Garrapata Creek Watershed Council  35811 Highway 1  Monterey, CA 93940  Phone: (831) 625-9621  Email: kenekelund@redshift.com</p>	<p>Brian True, Capital Projects Manager  Marina Coast Water District  11 Reservation Road  Marina, CA 93933  Phone: (831) 883-5937  Fax: (831) 384-0197  Email: btrue@mcwd.org</p>
<p>Bridget Hoover, Director  Water Quality Protection Program  Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary  299 Foam Street  Monterey, CA 93940  Phone: (831) 647-4217  Fax: (831) 647-4250  Email: bridget.hoover@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Christina McGinnis  Monterey Co. Agricultural Commissioner's Office  1428 Abbott Street  Salinas, CA 93901  Phone: (831) 759-7384  Fax: (831) 759-2268  Email: McGinnisCE@co.monterey.ca.us</p>

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Karen McBride, Rural Development Specialist- Environmental Rural Community Assistance Corporation 3120 Freeboard Drive #201 West Sacramento, CA 95691 Phone: (916) 447-9832 ext 1012 Email: karenm@rcac.org	Horacio Amezcuita, Manager San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc. 24500 Calle El Rosario Salinas, CA 93908 Phone: (831) 424-1947 Fax: (831) 424-1948 Email: horacioamezcuita@yahoo.com

Section 4. Incorporation of New Members. It is recognized that composition of the RWMG may change from time to time. Incorporation of new members into the RWMG will be decided on a case-by-case basis by majority vote of the RWMG, with the general assumption that a new entity will only be considered for admission into the RWMG if such admission would result in more balanced representation on the RWMG of geographic regions, disadvantaged communities, or water resource management interests within the Greater Monterey County region. A new member will be required to sign the MOU and will be expected to actively participate in regular RWMG meetings and in other RWMG activities, such as subcommittees or attendance at public workshops.

Section 5. Removal of RWMG Members. Lack of regular attendance at RWMG meetings or of active participation in RWMG activities may result in removal from the RWMG. A member may be removed from the RWMG, following 30-day written notice of a possible removal action and the reason therefore, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of RWMG members.

## **ARTICLE II. MEETINGS**

Section 1. Meetings. RWMG meetings will be held on a monthly basis throughout the duration of development of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), unless cancelled by the Project Coordinator due to lack of business to discuss. Meetings will be held the third Wednesday of each month from 1:30PM – 3:30PM at a location to be determined each month. A call-in conference phone number will be made available for those who cannot physically attend. The RWMG meetings will be open to the public. Upon completion of the IRWMP, RWMG meetings will be held on a schedule to be determined most appropriate for continued integrated planning and plan updates.

Section 2. Attendance. The RWMG members are expected to attend all meetings scheduled.

Section 3. Special Meetings. Subject to proper notice, special meetings may be called by the Project Coordinator or by any other RWMG member regarding the development or amendment of the IRWMP.

Section 4. Conflict of Interest. Any member who believes himself/herself to have a conflict of interest in any matter shall indicate such conflict prior to discussion of the matter and shall step down during such discussion and subsequent voting.

Section 5. Requests and Considerations. All requests and/or considerations related to the RWMG shall be made in writing at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time of the regular scheduled meeting.

Section 6. Conduct of Meetings. Except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws, the RWMG will follow the latest version of Robert's Rules of Order for the orderly conduct of meetings.

### **ARTICLE III. DECISION-MAKING**

Section 1. Decision-making Authority of RWMG. The RWMG is the final decision-making authority in all matters related to the IRWMP, though stakeholders and the general public will be given ample opportunity for comment and input regarding elements of the IRWMP during IRWMP development and future amendments.

Section 2. Quorum. A simple majority (50% plus one) of the RWMG shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 3. Voting. In order for voting to take place, there must be a quorum including at least two local agencies having statutory authority over water supply or water management. Action shall require a simple majority vote (50% plus one) of those present at the meeting, where "present" means involved in the discussion either in person or via conference call. Each RWMG entity is allowed one vote, regardless of whether or not they have contributed financially to the plan or to other RWMG activities. All votes will be counted equally. If the primary representative for a RWMG entity cannot attend a RWMG meeting, an alternate will be permitted to participate in the meeting and vote on behalf of that entity.

### **ARTICLE IV. DESIGNATION OF COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Designation of Committees. The RWMG may designate committees to advise the RWMG in matters related to development of the IRWMP. These committees will include, at a minimum: various subcommittees to aid the RWMG in its decisions regarding specific elements of the IRWMP; a Project Review Committee to review, develop, and rank the projects submitted for inclusion in the IRWMP; and a Funding Committee to identify additional sources of potential funding for the region's water resource management projects and to support the ongoing IRWM planning process. The roles and responsibilities of each of these groups are described in the following sections.

Section 2. RWMG Subcommittees: The RWMG will need to define certain elements of the IRWMP including regional issues and conflicts, goals and objectives, and a system for ranking projects. Subcommittees comprised of RWMG members will be created to develop recommendations to the RWMG regarding each of these plan elements. A subcommittee to review drafts of the IRWMP will also be formed. Other subcommittees may be formed as needed.

Section 3. Project Review Committee: The Project Review Committee will review all projects submitted for inclusion into the IRWMP, determine whether they meet minimum criteria, and then rank the projects according to the approved project ranking system. The Committee will recommend a ranked project list to

the RWMG, which will then discuss, revise if necessary, and vote to accept a final list for inclusion in the IRWMP. The Project Review Committee will be comprised entirely of RWMG members.

Section 4. Funding Committee: A Funding Committee will be created to assist the RWMG in identifying funding sources (beyond State IRWM funds) to help implement the region's projects, as well as funds to support ongoing IRWM planning. The Funding Committee will meet two or three times a year to review projects for funding needs.

## **ARTICLE V. AUTHORITY OF THE RWMG**

Section 1. Purpose and Role of RWMG. The primary purpose of the RWMG is to develop an IRWMP for the Greater Monterey County region, which will include a list of prioritized water resource-related projects for potential consideration by the State's IRWM Grant Program. Following award of any IRWM grant funds, the RWMG will be responsible for tracking progress of the region's funded projects. The RWMG will also be responsible for updating and amending the IRWMP from time to time.

Section 2. Limitations of Authority. It is intended that the RWMG shall serve only in the above-stated capacities. RWMG membership does not provide any added legal rights or regulatory powers to any RWMG member, or to the RWMG as an entity. RWMG membership does not of itself give any party the power to adjudicate water rights, or to regulate or otherwise control the private property of other parties.

## **ARTICLE VI. BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended by vote of the RWMG at any regularly scheduled RWMG meeting.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Greater Monterey County Regional Water Management Group this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2010.

AMENDED at the Regional Water Management Group meeting on September 21, 2011.

Amendments comprised the following:

- Added two new members: City of Soledad and Rural Community Assistance Corporation
- Updated information contained in Article IV. Designation of Committees
- Updated RWMG Member contact information (Article I, Section 3).

AMENDED at the Regional Water Management Group meeting on September 19, 2012.

- Removed one member: California Coastal Commission
- Updated RWMG Member contact information (Article I, Section 3).

AMENDED at the Regional Water Management Group meeting on January 16, 2013.

- Removed one member: Coastlands Mutual Water Company
- Updated RWMG Member contact information (Article I, Section 3).